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FIRST NAMED APPLICANT INTERNATIONAL APPAICATION NO 1747 5071 PRIORITY PATE 04 / 96 07/22/99

JANE E REMILLARD LAHIVE & COCKFIELD 28 STATE STREET BOSTON MA 02109

NOTIFICATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATION UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371 AND 37 CFR 1.494 OR 1.495

THOMAS

1. The applicant is hereby advised that the United States Patent and Trademark Office in its capacity as a
Designated Office (37 CFR 1.494), 🔀 an Elected Office (37 CFR 1.495), has determined that the above
identified international application has met the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 371, and is ACCEPTED for
national patentability examination in the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

2. The United States Application Number assigned to the application is shown above and the relevant dates

08 JUL 99 35 U.S.C. 102(e) DATE

A Filing Receipt (PTO-103X) will be issued for the present application in due course. THE DATE APPEARING ON THE FILING RECEIPT AS THE "FILING DATE" IS THE DATE ON WHICH THE LAST OF THE 35 U.S.C. 371(C) REQUIREMENTS HAS BEEN RECEIVED IN THE OFFICE. THIS DATE IS SHOWN ABOVE. The filing date of the above identified application is the international fili be

filing date of the international application (Article 11(3) and 35 U.S.C. 363). Once the Filing Receipt has been received, send all correspondence to the Group Art Unit designated thereon.
3. A request for immediate examination under 35 U.S.C. 371(f) was received on and the application will be examined in turn.
4. The following items have been received: U.S. Basic National Fee.
Applicant is reminded that any communication to the United States Patent and Trademark Office must be mailed to the address given in the heading and include the U.S. application no. shown above. (37 GFR 1.5) Karen Williams National Stage Processing Telephone: (703) (703) 305-3688